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ALBERTA HIGH SCHOOL

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

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ALBERTA HIGH SCHOOL

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Administrators	✓
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ALBERTA HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

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PART 1

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Students entering Grade 10 during or after the 1994–95 school year will work toward one of two graduation certificates:

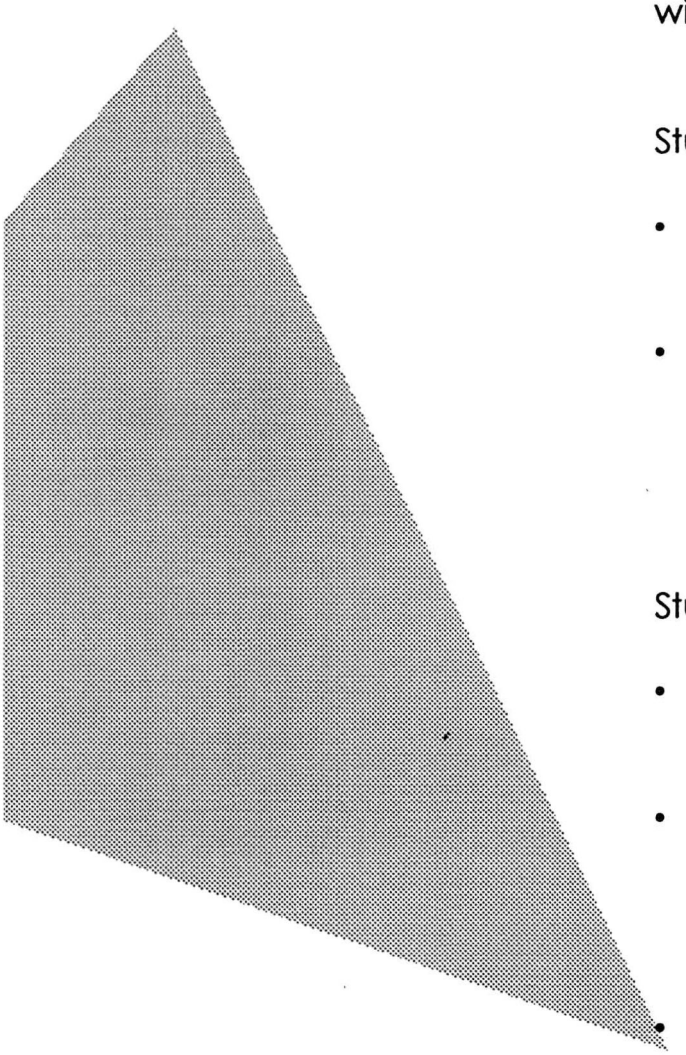
- the **Alberta High School Diploma**, or
- the **Certificate of Achievement**.

The single Alberta High School Diploma replaces the General and Advanced Diplomas introduced in 1985. The General and Advanced Diplomas will be phased out by August 31, 1997.

The introduction of the Alberta High School Diploma does not affect students working toward a Certificate of Achievement. The requirements for the Certificate of Achievement remain unchanged.

IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE

Students who started Grade 10 prior to the 1994–95 school year may work toward the Alberta High School Diploma or may continue to work toward a General Diploma or an Advanced Diploma until the General and Advanced Diplomas are phased out by August 31,1997. Beginning in the 1994–95 school year, the Alberta High School Diploma will be available to qualifying students.



Students in the General Diploma route will:

- **receive an Alberta High School Diploma if they meet the requirements**
- **receive a General Diploma if they meet the requirements for a General Diploma but do not meet the requirements for an Alberta High School Diploma.**

Students in the Advanced Diploma route will:

- **receive an Advanced Diploma if they meet the requirements**
- **receive an Alberta High School Diploma if they meet the requirements for an Alberta High School Diploma but do not meet the requirements for an Advanced Diploma**
- **receive a General Diploma if they meet the requirements for a General Diploma but do not meet the requirements for an Alberta High School Diploma.**

THE ALBERTA HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA

The Alberta High School Diploma is awarded to students meeting the requirements outlined below.

To earn an Alberta High School Diploma, a student must:

- earn a minimum of 100 credits
- complete and meet the standards of the following courses:

  English 30 or 33 or Français 30*
  Social Studies 30 or 33
  Mathematics 20 or 23 or 24*
  Science 20 or 24 or Biology 20 or Chemistry 20 or Physics 20*

- complete and meet the standards of the following:

  Physical Education 10 (3 credits)
  Career and Life Management (CALM) 20 (3 credits)
  10 credits from career and technology studies (CTS) or fine arts or second languages*
  10 credits in any 30-level courses (including locally developed) in addition to English 30 or 33 and Social Studies 30 or 33*

A credit represents the specific knowledge, skills and attitudes that most students can achieve with approximately 25 hours of instruction.

* For more information, see page 11.

THE CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT

The introduction of the Alberta High School Diploma does not affect students working toward the Certificate of Achievement. The Certificate of Achievement will continue to be awarded to students who complete the Integrated Occupational Program (IOP). To earn this certificate, students must complete a minimum of 80 credits in designated core and occupational courses. The IOP course series are numbered 16–26–36.

Students may transfer from the Certificate of Achievement route to the Alberta High School Diploma route. The credits earned in IOP may be applied toward an Alberta High School Diploma.

Additional information about the requirements for the Certificate of Achievement and transferring between routes is contained in the **Guide to Education: Senior High School Handbook**. The handbook can be reviewed at Regional Offices of Alberta Education or at local high schools.

CHANGES IN DIPLOMA REQUIREMENTS

Some of the requirements for the Alberta High School Diploma are the same as the requirements for the Advanced and General Diplomas, while others differ.

Students continue to require:

- **a minimum of 100 credits**
- **English 30 or 33 or Français 30**
- **Social Studies 30 or 33**
- **Physical Education 10**
- **Career and Life Management (CALM) 20.**

The following changes to the mathematics and science programs recognize the increasing importance of mathematics and science skills:

- **the minimum credit requirement will be 10 credits, which is an increase of 25 per cent in each of these two subjects**
- **assessment guidelines will be provided to schools to ensure students are evaluated with greater consistency throughout the province.**

Recognizing the importance of a broad general education, students may select from a variety of courses and subjects to fulfill the remaining credit requirements. This selection must include:

- **10 credits in career and technology studies (CTS) or fine arts or second languages**
- **10 credits in any 30-level courses, including locally developed courses, special projects, work experience and cooperative education, in addition to English and social studies.**[1]

1. Locally developed courses, special projects, work experience and cooperative education courses are intended to further promote and cultivate individual interests through innovation at the local level to meet the unique needs of a local community.

COMPARISON OF DIPLOMA REQUIREMENTS

The following chart offers a credit comparison of the Alberta High School Diploma requirements with requirements for the Advanced Diploma and General Diploma. As indicated on page 3, students are required to **meet the standards** of these courses to qualify for the Alberta High School Diploma.

PROGRAMS	CREDIT COMPARISON		
	The Alberta High School Diploma	The Advanced High School Diploma	The General High School Diploma
English	15	15	15
Social Studies	15	15	15
Mathematics	10	15	8
Science or Biology or Chemistry or Physics	10	15	8
Physical Education	3	3	3
Career and Life Management	3	3	3
Subtotal	56	66	52
Other Credits	44	34	48
Total Credits	100	100	100

PURPOSES OF DIFFERENT COURSE SERIES

In four subject areas — English, social studies, mathematics and science — there are different course series that are developed for a variety of purposes and have varying degrees of difficulty. The different course series are numbered accordingly.

- Course series numbered 10–20–30 and 31 are designed primarily for students planning entry into university or certain programs in colleges and technical schools.

- Course series numbered 13–23–33 are designed primarily for students planning entry into certain programs in colleges and technical schools, trade schools, or entry into employment.

- Course series numbered 14–24 are designed primarily for students planning direct career entry into some areas of employment.

PART 2

THE TRANSCRIPT OF ACHIEVEMENT

A student graduates with a wide range of knowledge and skills in specific subjects. The Transcript of Achievement contains detailed information regarding the specific courses a student has completed and the marks obtained. It is the document that best reflects the knowledge and skills of a graduate. The Transcript of Achievement will be redesigned by the 1994–95 school year to simplify and clarify the information it contains.

Courses will be grouped by subject area, allowing the reader to easily determine a student's subject specialization.

The purposes of the different course series in English, social studies, mathematics and science will be explained. The transcript will note if the course series is designed primarily for students planning to attend university, or primarily for students planning to attend technical schools, or primarily for students planning direct career entry. Only English, social studies, mathematics and science are assigned course series descriptors because they are the only subject areas with alternative course series.

PART 3

RECOGNITION OF HIGH STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

High student achievement in any subject area will be recognized on the Transcript of Achievement. ***HONOURS*** will be printed beside each course name in which a student achieves the standard of excellence — a mark of 80% or higher.

PART 4

DOCUMENTS FOR FRANCOPHONE AND FRENCH IMMERSION STUDENTS

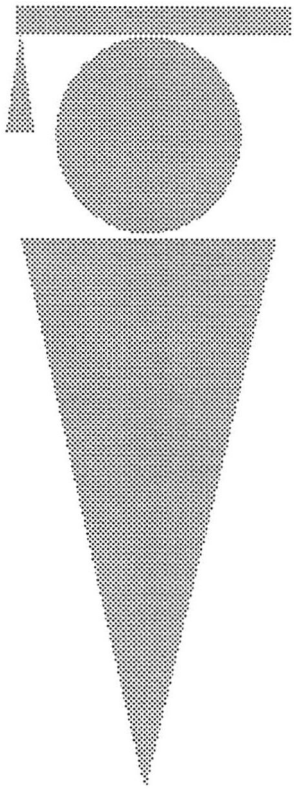
Alberta Education will issue French language versions of the Alberta High School Diploma, the Certificate of Achievement and the Transcript of Achievement to graduates of Francophone and French immersion programs. English versions are also available.

PART 5

ENTRANCE TO POST-SECONDARY INSTITUTIONS

An Alberta High School Diploma does not ensure a student's admission into post-secondary institutions. Before selecting their high school courses, students should consult the calendars of post-secondary institutions they may be interested in attending. Admission requirements for these institutions vary as they are set by the individual institutions and the faculties and departments within these institutions.

Further information on entrance to post-secondary institutions can be obtained at high schools or directly from these institutions.



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The following provides additional information on meeting diploma requirements.

* Students in francophone programs may use Français 30 instead of English 30 or 33 to meet the diploma requirements. However, these students must use English 10, 20 and 30 or English 13, 23 and 33 to fulfill the 10-credit requirement from career and technology studies (CTS) or fine arts or second languages.

* The mathematics requirement — Mathematics 20 or 23 or 24 — may also be met with any 10-credit combination of mathematics courses that includes Mathematics 13 or 10.

* The science requirement — Science 20 or 24 or Biology 20 or Chemistry 20 or Physics 20 — may also be met with any 10-credit combination of science courses that includes Science 10.

* The requirement — 10 credits from career and technology studies (CTS) or fine arts or second languages — may also be met using some locally developed courses. For more information, see the **Guide to Education: Senior High School Handbook**. This handbook can be reviewed at Regional Offices of Alberta Education or at local high schools.

* The requirement — 10 credits in any 30-level courses in addition to English 30 or 33 and Social Studies 30 or 33 — may also be met using a number of French courses. These courses are listed in the Second Languages section of the **Guide to Education: Senior High School Handbook**. For further information, contact the Language Services Branch of Alberta Education.